

Maine Newborn Hearing Program

Advisory Board

Senator Inn & Conference Center, Augusta, Maine

Date: Friday, December 04, 2009

12:00 to 4:00

Members Present: Cindy Brown, Harriet Gray, Jennifer Libby, Karen Harrison, Karen Hopkins, Karen Perry, Kristen Shorey, Romy Spitz, & Matt Hearst

Members Absent: Annette Bowman, Carrie Chojnowski, Eileen Peterson, Lisa Sockabasin, & Louise Packness

Program Staff: Betsy Glencross, Toni Wall, Bethany Galligher, Vivian Mikhail, & Ana Scovil

Moderator: Betsy Glencross

Scribe: Ana Scovil

I. Welcome. Cindy Brown, new Board co-chair led the meeting in Carrie Chojnowski's absence. Cindy reminded Board members of their responsibility to RSVP promptly to Ana Scovil so that appropriate arrangements can be made with the Senator. Ana was asked to address the board about their contact information due to the fact that several member's contact emails and/or phone numbers were not correct in our records. We need to be able to contact members in a timely manner and MNHP is required to keep that information updated with the Secretary of State's office.

II. Change to Agenda Order

The request was made for the new agenda items be moved to the beginning of the meeting since a few members needed to leave early.

III. Minutes from: September 23rd, 2009, accepted.

IV. New Agenda Items

♦ Advisory Board Goals

2009 Accomplishments

Boards formed by the Legislature are required to report certain items every year. There have been some changes to this requirement due to changes in oversight by OPEGA. We are now required to report all costs associated with Board functions as well as the goals the Board has accomplished. The Board recommended the following goals be reported:

- Presentation to Maine Speech Language Hearing Association at their Spring Conference
- Subcommittee work to increase membership and create a Specialty Provider database
- Provided guidance to the Maine Newborn Hearing Program

- Presentation by the Child Development Services State Director gave the Board increased awareness of Early Intervention services and needs in Maine.

2010 Goals

The Board discussed working on developing goals for the upcoming year and after discussion established the following intentions:

- Clearly understand and identify what is the MNHP's current status with its goals and what are its challenges
- Medical Home education. Learn more about what is happening in Maine with "Patient-centered medical home" and how MNHP can work with PCPs on Early Intervention and family needs.
- Communication/PR with providers (PCP, SLP, OT, PT, Audiologists)
- Technology. Increase the Board's knowledge of what is happening in this area including: hearing aid funding, development of technology, evaluating status and obstacles in procurement of appropriate amplification, and how do audiologists work with all of this.
- Learn about "Primary Service Provider" module being used by CDS

♦ 2009 Legislative Report

The Board reviewed the draft of the report and provided MNHP with some suggestions for edits.

V. MNHP Updates: Betsy Glencross

- ♦ Betsy is meeting with a midwifery practice in Topsham on December 8th. They are interested in providing newborn hearing screening in their practice. MNHP will help with equipment and associated costs.
- ♦ MNHP's database, ChildLINK, is going to be updated so that it is better integrated with Children with Special Health Needs programs and will provide a broader base of data and information. Update will take several years. The original system was developed in 2002 and there are many changes as to how we gather data now as well as the follow-up portion for families and physicians.
- ♦ Bethany Galligher, Audiology Consultant, started September 1st. We are working on setting goals.
- ♦ ME /NH Audiology Conference – Twenty-three Maine audiologists attended. Most provide pediatric audiology. Feedback we received included requests for next year to have a focus on Maine and MNHP. The ME Audiology Conference 2010 will be held in central Maine area on June 18th. We plan to include an opportunity for service providers like ECFS, CDS, hear ME now!, Warren Center, etc. to give audiologists information about what they do. Please let MNHP know if there are other service providers who should be included in this list.
- ♦ A planning committee has been established and has started work on an Early Intervention conference which will be held on October 15, 2010.

- ◆ MNHP was awarded additional HRSA funds (\$150,000 for 3 years). The purpose of this grant is to improve our follow-up efforts. A full-time follow-up coordinator will be hired. Position should be filled by the beginning of the year.
- ◆ Conducting a Surveillance System Evaluation is part of our CDC grant requirements. The areas for evaluation were established at a stakeholder's meeting in August. The analysis has begun. There will be another stakeholder's meeting in May to hear the report.
- ◆ NICHQ (National Initiative for Children's Healthcare Quality) – The EMMC/MNHP team is working on ensuring that all babies in NICU are being screened for hearing loss and that risk factors and the baby's PCP are being correctly identified. We are working on how to spread this work state-wide. The third learning session will be held in Jan 2010.

VI. Audiology Consultant Update: Bethany Galligher

- ◆ Attended 2009 Audiology Conference and informed Maine Audiologist on MNHP process and received feedback on items to address.
- ◆ Looking at updating the Pediatric Audiological facilities laminated sheet, including updating what type of information we gather from each facility so that we can more accurately report on the services provided.
- ◆ Reviewing the Pediatric Audiology Guidelines.
- ◆ Evaluating equipment that can be used for a rural/outreach audiology project.
- ◆ Working on June 2010 Audiology Conference and obtaining speakers to provide topics requested by Maine audiologists.

VII. Parent Consultant Update: Vivian Mikhail

- ◆ Attended NICHQ and gave parent perspective on risks for later onset hearing loss. Work includes:
 - Drafting a letter to families in advising their child's risk factor/ factors for later onset hearing loss and working with the EMMC NICU Parent Advisory Group to get their input on the letter content and use.
 - Joining Louise McLaughlin from EMMC Audiology department in a Ground Round presentation for pediatricians.
- ◆ Attended 2009 Audiology Conference. One of the presentations was done by Terrell Clark from Boston Children's Hospital who discussed counseling families who have just learned their child has hearing loss. Vivian presented a piece on this from the parent's perspective.
- ◆ Attended the Next Steps conference in November. Vivian, Karen Hopkins and Lynn Schardel gave their presentation on "Double-Edged Sword of Early Hearing Detection and Intervention."
- ◆ Ongoing work with Loss to Documentation- encourage families to follow up on refer hearing screening.
- ◆ Hand and Voices – The deadline for applications to the H & V Board is January 15th.
- ◆ Vivian is on the planning committee for the Early Intervention Conference- October 15th.

VIII. Subcommittees

- ◆ Membership: there are four current vacant positions: Pediatric Chapter Champion, Culturally Deaf Person, Parent of a Child who is culturally Deaf, and Nurse. No update on the Physician. Culturally Deaf Person Romy is to follow up. An interested candidate for parent of a culturally deaf child. Five possible candidates for the position of a nurse.

IX. Networking/Sharing Info

- ◆ There is an "Early Language Journal Club" which meets the second Tuesday of every month at 5:30. The group is able to connect via Polycom. Contact Karen Hopkins for more information.
- ◆ EHDI conference will be held in Chicago on March 1 & 2.
- ◆ Please RSVP to Ana when you receive your agendas and other requests for information.
- ◆ Meeting dates for 2010:

Wednesday, March 10th

Friday, June 11th

Wednesday, September 15th

Friday, December 3rd

IX. Next Meeting

- ◆ Betsy will give data and present on the six goals of EDHI
- ◆ Steve Meister will be invited to present on Maine's work on "Family-Centered Medical Home"
- ◆ The Board will further develop their goals.